

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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SECRET

COUNTRY **East Germany**

REPORT

25X1

SUBJECT **Personnel Policies and Tensions
in ZAPT**

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1. Growing tension has developed between two leading functionaries of the Central Office for Research and Technology (Zentralamt fuer Forschung und Technik - ZAPT), of the East German State Planning Commission. The two are Dr. Alfred Baumbach, head of ZAPT Main Department I and Dr. Guenther Panning, head of the Department for Chemical Industry under Baumbach's direction. The tension was mainly caused by the increase of Baumbach's influence upon the direction of ZAPT. Baumbach, who is the father-in-law of ZAPT head Werner Lange, is practically directing the ZAPT administration since Lange's appointment to a permanent function in the State Planning Commission while still retaining his ZAPT position. Panning has made repeated attacks upon Baumbach's allegedly autocratic way of running things, such as the issuing of directives to Panning's subordinates without properly informing Panning. Actually the struggle is between a faction in ZAPT strongly backed by Lange and led by Baumbach, who aspires to succeed Lange on the one side, and the faction led by Panning who is ambitious and allegedly backed by some high officials in the Central Committee of the SED.
2. At the present time Baumbach has succeeded in curtailing Panning's influence. Upon his recommendations, Lange called off Panning from the sessions of the ZAPT directorate (Leitungssitzung) which take place every week. Previously, Panning was eligible to take part in these sessions but he has now been excluded from them.

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